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How to INVITE People to Allah



Dr. Muhammad Al-'Areefi



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Riyadh • Jeddah • Al-Khobar • Sharjah
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How to
INVITE
People to **Alla**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

*In the Name of Allah,
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful*

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In the Name of Allah, the Most Merciful, the Granter of Mercy

All praises belong and are due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds. May prayers and salutations be sent on the noblest of all messengers, our leader, Muhammad, his family and Companions.

This book was originally a lecture given by the esteemed Shaykh, Dr. Muhammad Al- 'Arifi, may Allah protect him, which we have transcribed and published.

We have, to the best of our ability, replaced the words and phrases in colloquial Arabic with classical Arabic; and referenced the *ahadith* quoted by the speaker to their original places in the books of *hadith*.

We ask Allah, the Sublime and Exalted, to allow all readers to benefit from it and not to deprive us of the reward, for surely Allah is Ever Munificent and Most Generous. Our final call is that all praises belong to Allah, the Lord of the worlds.

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Taif, and which is currently on the road to Hada. He sent this Companion saying to him,

"You shall find the Bedouin nomads in the desert; they are infidels who worship Lat and 'Uzza, and also make sacrifices to other idols. Go to them and invite them to Allah, the Exalted."

So the Companion left and when he reached his destination he found one person who was so ignorant that he only knew about camels, goats and sheep! So he began to invite them to Islam and to do away with worshipping idols but they disbelieved, turned away and said,

"How can we stop worshipping what our forefathers worshipped for one man who comes to us with a new religion."

All of them turned away except one man.

So the Companion immediately went back to Madinah on his she-camel. As for the one man, he then walked from Taif to Madinah, a distance of approximately five hundred kilometers. When he reached Madinah he began to look left and right because he was confused and didn't know where to go. So he asked some of the people about the man who claimed he was a prophet.

"The man who claims to be a prophet is sitting in the masjid," they told him. So he proceeded to the masjid and tied his camel at the door. When he entered the masjid he continued to look around not knowing what to say.

"Where is this man who claims to be a prophet?" he shouted. "Where is Muhammad Ibn 'Abdullah?"

The people then pointed out a fair skinned man sitting against the wall and told him it was Muhammad Ibn 'Abdullah ﷺ. "That is the man who claims to be a prophet?" he asked doubtfully. They told him yes, it was the man. So he walked through the ranks of people who were sitting in a circle until he reached the center where the Prophet ﷺ was sitting. One of the Companions said, "This man has entered here, we can hear his voice, but we can hardly understand what he's saying." The other Companions looked up and saw a Bedouin man with two long plaits.

The man continued to move forward until he was directly in front of the Prophet ﷺ. He then began to look at him and at the rest of the Companions around him asking which one of them was Muhammad ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ answered, "I am Muhammad." The man then asked him, "Are you the one who claims to be a prophet?" The Prophet ﷺ answered yes. He then said, "I shall ask you some questions, but I will be very blunt and frank with you, so don't get frustrated or become angry at me." In other words, he was saying to the Prophet ﷺ that he was going to be extremely rude because he didn't have any manners, and didn't know how to say, "Excuse me," "pardon me," or "if you would be so kind," but would speak exactly as he would to his fellow Bedouin nomads in the desert. The Prophet ﷺ then instructed him

“O Khumam!
Why do you say
this about Lat and
'Uzza? Beware
of becoming
afflicted with
leprosy! Aren't
you afraid of
going mad?”



Advice in Ramadan

recall that once we sat down in Ramadan with many other Muslims and broke our fast with dates and water.

Before we even had the chance to finish our *iftar* and to start praying Maghrib, a man suddenly stood up and pulled out a pack of cigarettes. As he placed one in his mouth I advised him saying, "Brother, we are currently eating our *iftar*. We thank and praise Allah for giving us the ability to fast and for making us Muslims. So instead of you thanking Allah, the Exalted, for that, and performing *wudhu* for the prayer, you smoke! Do you not have any fear of Allah whatsoever?"

He turned towards me saying, "Smoking is not impermissible."

"Smoking isn't impermissible?" I asked him.

"No, it isn't," he replied.

I then asked him to immediately put out his cigarette and offered to give him twelve different pieces of evidence

from the Qur'an and ten from the Sunnah to prove that smoking is not allowed.

"All this evidence?" he asked me.

"Yes, all of them," I responded.

"But you must first put out your cigarette," I added.

So he put out his cigarette and I began quoting from the Qur'an.

﴿وَيُحِلُّ لَهُمُ الطَّيِّبَاتِ وَيُحَرِّمُ عَلَيْهِمُ الْخَبَائِثَ﴾

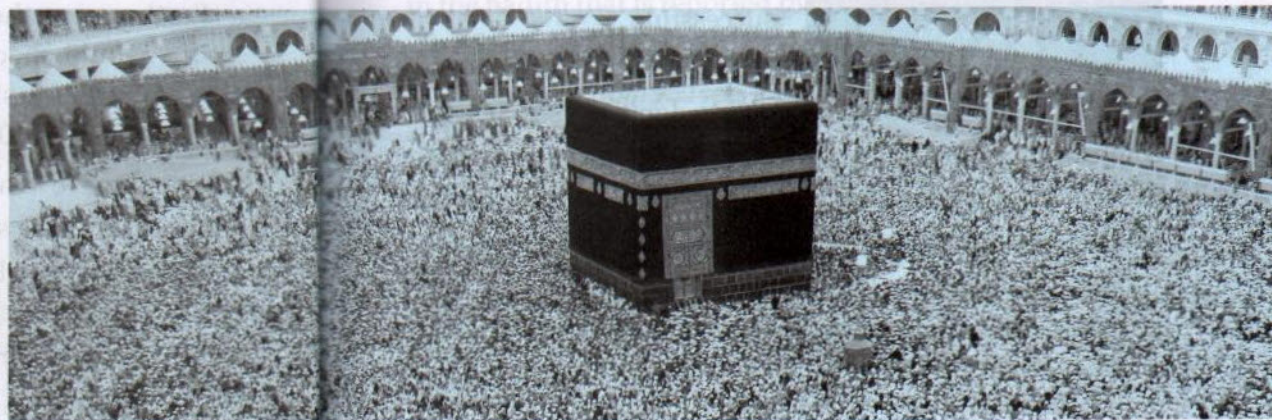
"He makes lawful for them that which is good and pure and unlawful for them that which is wicked and foul."

Surah Al-'Araf (157)

Everyone - regardless of whether they are intellectuals or Muslims - agree that cigarettes are wicked and foul. I then mentioned to him the verse in which Allah, the Exalted, says,

﴿وَلَا تُبْذِرْ تَبْذِيرًا﴾

"And do not spend in wastefulness." Surah Al-Isra (26)



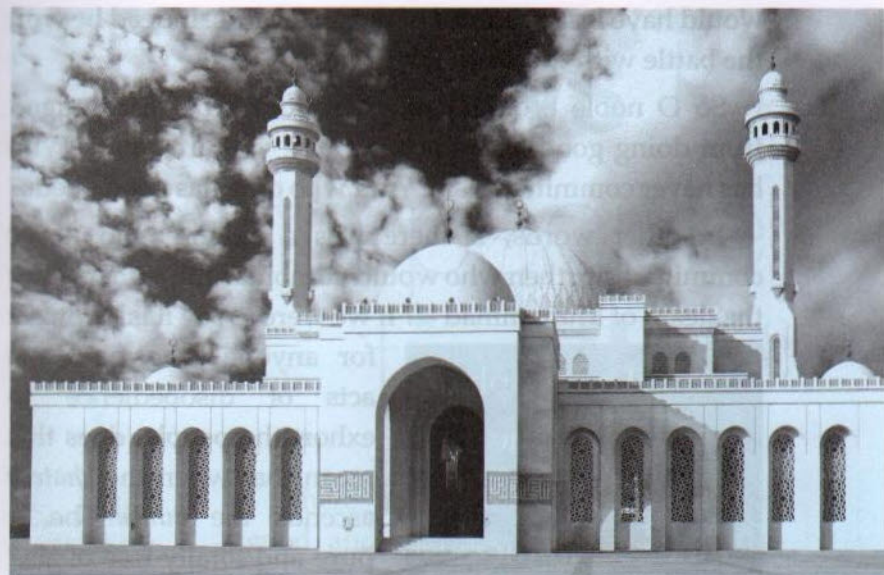
Work for Allah, even if you're a



Sinner

“Now the reward for anyone who makes *dhikr* to Allah, whether it be *tasbih*, reciting the Qur'an, or any other act of worship in the *masjid*, will also be placed on the scales of good deeds of this sinful young man.”

There was once a young man who came to me when we were raising funds to build a *masjid*. This young man was a sinful smoker. He handed me a stuffed envelope and when I opened it, I saw that it contained five thousand riyals. When I asked him where he got the money from, he said that he had collected it from his mother, sisters and other family members. “Please take it, Shaykh, this is charity for this *masjid*.”



O beloved ones, now the reward for anyone who makes *dhikr* to Allah, whether it be *tasbih*, reciting the Qur'an, or any other act of worship in the *masjid*, will also be placed on the scales of good deeds of this sinful young man. He will receive a reward similar to those who actually perform these acts of worship. The Prophet ﷺ said,

“Whoever calls to guidance will receive the likes of the rewards of those who follow him in that guidance without any of their rewards being diminished.” *Muslim (no. 6466)*

By Allah, I swear this young man will continue to receive these immense rewards as long as this *masjid* remains open – with the stipulation that he was sincere to Allah.

But what if he had gone to collect the money and the Devil asked him, “Why collect wealth for a *masjid* and you smoke, listen to music and shave your beard?!” If he had agreed with Shaytan and postponed gathering the money until after he repented from smoking cigarettes, then he

The Prophet's Orders during the Battle of the Trench

I will now reflect on the relationship between the Prophet ﷺ and his Companions during the Battle of the Trench.

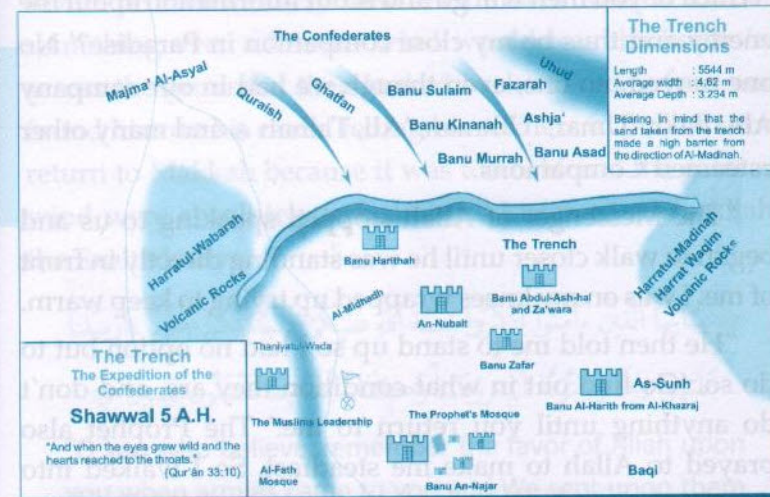
The infidels had united and intended to strike one fatal blow against the Messenger of Allah ﷺ and his Companions. The Quraysh had called together a number of tribes and clans including the Ghatfan, Thaqif and Hawazin. Shortly afterwards the Quraysh and their allies began their long trip to Madinah.

The Prophet ﷺ consulted his companions but they didn't know what to do. Some of them suggested fighting and others said they should remain on the defensive because they were severely outnumbered. Salman Al-Farisi ؓ suggested to the Messenger of Allah ﷺ to dig a trench which would act as a barrier between them and the

enormous number of enemy soldiers. "This is what we do in my country, Persia, whenever the Romans want to attack us and we don't have sufficient numbers to win. Once we dig these trenches they don't have any way to reach us."

Keep in mind that Madinah was surrounded by mountains in three directions leaving only one open road to the city which was the Sahl entrance. This is where Salman ؓ had suggested digging the trenches. The Prophet ﷺ immediately said it was a good idea and gave orders for the digging to begin.

The trenches were extremely long and very deep. Some historians mention that they were four meters in depth,



and a width that the average man could not leap over. This meant the invader would either have to go to the other side or get down into the trench and then work his way back up.

The armies of the disbelievers and the Muslims then

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the Fire. If only we had understood what was being said to us we wouldn't be here right now."

Subhanallah! They had ears but they did not benefit from them. They had intellect but they did not benefit from it. For this reason our Lord says,

﴿فَاعْتَرَفُوا بِذَنبِهِمْ فَسُحْقًا لِأَصْحَابِ السَّعِيرِ﴾

"They will then admit to their sins, and far away be the people of the Fire!" Surah Al-Mulk (11)

I ask Allah, the Exalted, by His generosity and kindness to make all of us of those who obey Allah and His Messenger in everything. Surely, Allah, the Sublime, surely knows best. May prayers and salutations be sent upon Muhammad, his family and Companions.

